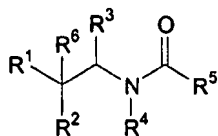


IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 to 38. (canceled)

Claim 39. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a compound of structural formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

~~R¹ is selected from:~~

- ~~(1) —aryl,~~
- ~~(2) —aryl-C₁₋₄alkyl,~~
- ~~(3) —heteroaryl,~~
- ~~(4) —heteroaryl-C₁₋₄alkyl,~~

~~wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;~~

R¹ is selected from:

- (1) phenyl,
- (2) phenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (3) pyridyl, and
- (4) pyridyl-C₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein each phenyl and pyridyl is optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from halogen, methyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano and methoxy, and each pyridyl is optionally present as the N-oxide;

R² is selected from:

- (1) C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (2) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl,

- (4) ~~aryl,~~
- (5) ~~aryl C₁₋₄alkyl,~~
- (6) ~~heteroaryl, and~~
- (7) ~~heteroaryl C₁₋₄alkyl,~~

~~wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;~~

R² is selected from:

- (1) cyclopropylmethyl,
- (2) cyclobutylmethyl,
- (3) cyclopentylmethyl,
- (4) cyclohexylmethyl,
- (5) phenyl,
- (6) benzyl,
- (7) phenylethyl,
- (8) 3-phenylpropyl,
- (9) 2-phenylpropyl, and
- (10) pyridylmethyl,

wherein each cycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl is optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents selected from halogen, trifluoromethyl, cyano, methoxycarbonyl, and methoxy;

R³ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen, and
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁴ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen, and
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl,

wherein each alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁵ is selected from:

- (1) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (2) C₂₋₁₀alkenyl,
- (3) C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl,
- (4) C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (5) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,

- (6) aryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (7) diaryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (8) aryl-C₂₋₁₀alkenyl,
- (9) heteroaryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, and cycloheteroalkyl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a and cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b, provided that R⁵ is not -CH=CH-COOH;

R⁶ is selected from:

- (1) -OR^d, and
- (2) -NR^cR^d;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^d,
- (2) -NR^cS(O)_mR^d,
- (3) halogen,
- (4) -S(O)_mR^d,
- (5) -S(O)_mNR^cR^d,
- (6) -NR^cR^d,
- (7) -C(O)R^d,
- (8) -CO₂R^d,
- (9) -CN,
- (10) -C(O)NR^cR^d,
- (11) -NR^cC(O)R^d,
- (12) -NR^cC(O)OR^d,
- (13) -NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d,
- (14) -CF₃,
- (15) -OCF₃, and
- (16) cycloheteroalkyl;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) R^a,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) oxo,
- (4) aryl,
- (5) arylC₁₋₄alkyl,
- (6) heteroaryl, and
- (7) heteroarylC₁₋₄alkyl;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl,
- (4) cycloalkyl,
- (5) cycloalkyl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl;
- (6) cycloheteroalkyl,
- (7) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
- (8) aryl,
- (9) heteroaryl,
- (10) aryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl, and
- (11) heteroaryl-C₁₋₁₀alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R_g,

each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h; each R_g is independently selected from: C₁₋₁₀alkyl, and -C(O)R^c;

each R^h is independently selected from:

- (1) halogen,
- (2) C₁₋₁₀alkyl,
- (3) -O C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (4) -S (O)_m C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (5) -CN,
- (6) -CF₃, and
- (7) -OCF₃; and

m is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 40. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 39, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁴ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen, and
- (2) methyl.

Claim 41. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 40, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁴ is hydrogen.

Claim 42. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 40, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R³ is selected from hydrogen, methyl and ethyl.

Claim 43. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 41, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R³ is methyl.

Claim 44. (Canceled)

Claim 45. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 43, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R¹ is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with a halogen or cyano substituent.

Claim 46. (Canceled)

Claim 47. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 45, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R² is 4-chlorobenzyl.

Claim 48. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 47, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁶ is hydroxyl.

Claim 49. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 47, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁵ is selected from:

- (1) C₁-alkyl,
- (2) C₂-alkenyl,
- (3) cycloheteroalkyl-C₁-alkyl,
- (4) aryl-C₁-alkyl,
- (5) diaryl-C₁-alkyl,
- (6) aryl-C₂-alkenyl, and
- (7) heteroaryl-C₁-alkyl,

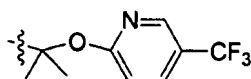
wherein each alkyl or alkenyl is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl is each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^b and wherein cycloheteroalkyl is selected from pyrrolidinyl, 2H-phthalazinyl, azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl, benzoxapinyl, morpholinyl, piperazinyl, dihydroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazolyl, and piperidinyl; aryl is

selected from phenyl and naphthyl; and heteroaryl is selected from pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, isoxazolyl, indolyl and thiazolyl.

Claim 50. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 48, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁵ is selected from:

- (1) C₁-alkyl substituted with -OR^d or NR^cR^d,
- (2) C₂-8 alkenyl substituted with OR^d or NR^cR^d, and
- (3) phenyl-C₁-8 alkyl wherein phenyl is substituted with one to three R^b substituents.

Claim 51. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 50, wherein in the compound of structural formula I or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, R⁵ is:



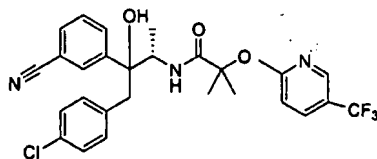
Claim 52. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 39, wherein the compound of structural formula I is selected from:

- (1) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-bromophenyl)-2-hydroxy]propyl}-2-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-2-methylpropanamide,
- (2) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-bromophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*S*)-methyl]propyl}-2-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-2-methylpropanamide,
- (3) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-bromophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*R*)-methyl]propyl}-2-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-2-methylpropanamide,
- (4) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*S*)-methyl]propyl}-2-phenylbutanamide,
- (5) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*S*)-methyl]propyl}-1-phenylcyclobutanecarboxamide,
- (6) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*S*)-methyl]propyl}-2-phenylbutanamide,
- (7) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*S*)-methyl]propyl}-2-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-2-methylpropanamide,
- (8) *N*-{[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-hydroxy-1(*R*)-methyl]propyl}-2-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyloxy)-2-methylpropanamide,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 53 - 63. (canceled)

Claim 64. (Currently amended) The composition according to Claim + 39 comprising the compound:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.